



YAK'S CORNER TEACHER GUIDE

This week we read about Olympic mascots and a training center for the nation's greatest athletes. We also completed a state capitals puzzle.

Capital Cards

ACTIVITY: Use a map to make a list of each state and its capital city. Get 100 index cards or cut out 100 equal-size slips of paper to make flash cards. Copy the name of each state on a card or slip of paper. Then do the same with the capital cities. Mix up each stack of cards and then try to match the states with their capitals. Use your list as a key for checking your work. Keep practicing until you know all the states and their capitals.

STANDARDS: Students will use maps to locate information such as capitals. Students will name each of the 50 U.S. states and identify each state's capital.

Paper Caper

ACTIVITY: Your state government's main offices are located in your state's capital city. Look for a mention of your state capital in your newspaper to find stories about your state government. Summarize each story and then identify the branch of government it is about: executive, legislative or judicial.

STANDARD: Students will recognize functions of state government and each of its branches.

Go Figure

ACTIVITY: Use a map, books or the Internet to find the population of each of the capital cities you identified in the geography puzzle. Then answer the following

questions about the cities:

▲ Which of the cities has the largest population?

▲ Which of the cities has the smallest population?

▲ What is the mean population for the seven capital cities?

▲ What is the median population for the seven capital cities?



PHOTO BY JERILEE BENNETT/KRT

Sunset turns rocks a fiery red at Capitol Reef National Park in Utah.

Take a Trip

ACTIVITY: Take a virtual trip to Utah and discover some interesting facts about the state. Use maps, books, the Internet and other resources to answer these questions:

▲ Name the major bodies of water in Utah.

▲ Name the major mountain ranges in Utah.

▲ Identify the major industries in Utah.

▲ What religious group has its international headquarters in Salt Lake City?

▲ Name five places of interest in Utah and explain what you'd see there.

STANDARD: Students will write for a variety of contexts.

STANDARDS: Students will gather information from maps and other sources and interpret that information to draw conclusions. Students will compare quantities. Students will understand basic statistical functions such as mean and median.

Writers Log

ACTIVITY: Pretend you are an athlete training at one of the U.S. Olympic Committee training sites. Write a journal entry that tells about what you did today, based on information that is provided in the story about Olympic training.

STANDARD: Students will write for a variety of contexts.

Information Investigation

ACTIVITY: You know the Winter Olympic Games are just around the corner, but do you know which sports are included in the Winter Games? Make a list of all the games you think are included. Then use the Internet or library to research the Olympics and see how you did. (A word of warning: Be sure to check the publishing date if you're using books. Over time, new sports have been added to the Olympics, and older books may not include those sports.)

STANDARDS: Students will conduct research using print and online sources. Students will evaluate sources for their ability to provide up-to-date information.



YAK'S CORNER ACTIVITY SHEET

www.yakscorner.com

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SPORTS I THINK ARE INCLUDED IN THE WINTER OLYMPICS:

SPORTS ACTUALLY INCLUDED IN THE WINTER OLYMPICS:

Take a Trip

ACTIVITY: Take a virtual trip to Utah and discover some interesting facts about the state. Use maps, books, the Internet and other resources to answer questions about the state.

Interesting facts about Utah

Name the major bodies of water in Utah: _____

Name the mountain ranges in Utah: _____

Identify the major industries in Utah: _____

Name five places of interest in Utah. Use another sheet of paper to explain what you'd see there:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____